problem, offered Pakistan a 'no war' pact with India;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of the Government of India with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The Soviet Government have made no such offer.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Cadre review of IFS (B)

780. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that since the formation of Indian Foreign Service (A) Cadre Review of the service have been undertaken several times;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in 1981 an assurance was given to Parliament that no further Cadre Review of the said service will be undertaken without the Cadre Review of IFS(B), but despite this Cadre Review of IFS(A) has been undertaken thrice in 1981, 1983 and 1986;

(c) whether he is aware that whereas in IFS(A) a large number of posts have been created over the years no such steps have been taken to improve the service conditions of IFS(B) service; and

(d) if so, how many posts have been created in IFS(A) since its formation and what steps are proposed to be taken to improve the promotional avenues of IFS(B) service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Since the formation of the Indian Foreign Service, there have been three Cadre Reviews of the Services, *viz.* in 1976, 1981 and 1983.

(b) No such assurance was given. Proposals for Cadre Review both of IFS and of IFS(B) were initiated in 1986.

(c) and (d) At the time of the initial constitution of the IFS it comprised 315 posts. Its present sanctioned strength is 612. In view of the considerable increase in the number of Missions abroad over the last forty years, the increase in posts in the IFS has been much less than the functional requirement. The Service continues to face a serious problem of stagnation. The draft IFS(B) Cadre Review proposals that have been prepared seek to rationalise the structure and improve service conditions especially of those sub-cadres of the IFS(B) which face problems of stagnation.

Foreign allowance of attaches/registrars

781. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign allowance of Attaches/Registrars posted in most of the Indian Missions abroad is less than that of their immediate subordinates like Clerks/Assistants/Staff Car Drivers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the foreign allowance of Third Secretaries/Language Trainees in the Missions abroad is much higher than those of Attaches/Registrars though they perform the same duties, if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether several representations by the affected employees have been made in the past in this regard

but no steps have been taken to remove the anomalies; and

(d) if the answers to parts (a), (b) and (c) above is be in the affirmative, what steps are proposed to increase the foreign allowance of Attaches/Registrars posted in Missions abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) It is a fact that foreign allowance of Attaches/Registrars was marginally lower than that of their immediate subordinates in some Indian Missions abroad but this anomaly has since been removed except in a couple of cases.

(b) Yes, Sir, Third Secretaries' foreign allowance is higher in order to ensure that pay plus foreign allowance is sufficient to maintain the requisite standard. However, it is not a fact that Attaches/Registrars perform the same duties as the Third Secretaries/Language Trainees. The Third Secretaries / Language Trainees are officers with representational functions whereas Attaches/ Registrars have no such reponsibilities.

(c) No written representation has been received in recent past expect one dated 6.11.1986 from IFS (B) Gazetted Officers Association.

(d) It is accepted that there should be a noticeable difference between the foreign allowance of Attaches / Registrars compared to those of their subordinates. This issue will be examined in detail when formula for fixation of foreign allowance of various categories of officials is reviewed after introduction of pay-scales recommended by Fourth Pay Commission in Indian missions abroad. For the present, revised pay-scales have not been intoduced in Indian missions abroad because the quantum of *ad-hoc* reduction in foreign allowance on introduction of new pay scales is still under consideration in consultation with the Ministry of Finance.

Pak espionage network busted in Jammu & Kashmir

782. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Pak espionage network has been busted in Jammu and Kashmir recently;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what is the total number of persons arrested so far in this connection and what action has been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Enforcement of Handloom Reservation Order

783. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently asked the State Governments to ensure effective and vigorous enforcement of the Handloom Reservation Order and also to improve the production and quality of handloom products;

(b) if so, what are the details of the guidelines issued in this regard; and

(c) what help Central Government propose to render to the State Governments for this task?